

*United States Court of Appeals
for the Second Circuit*



APPENDIX

76-1031

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Appellee,

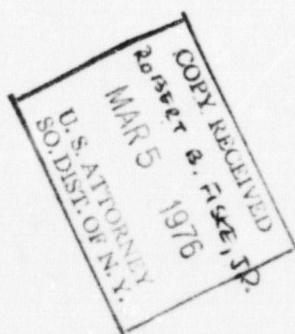
Docket #76-1031

-against-

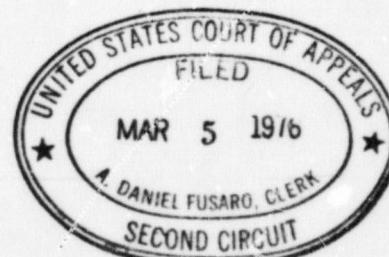
CHARLES BRADLEY

Appellant.

APPENDIX FOR PELLANT



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UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-against-

CHARLES BRADLEY,

Defendant.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT
COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN
DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

CASE NO. 73 CR. 690
JUDGE CARTER

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

: INDICTMENT

- v -

CHARLES BRADLEY, JR. : 75 Cr.
Defendant.

-----X
The Grand Jury charges:

On or about April 14, 1975, in the Southern District of New York, the defendant, CHARLES BRADLEY, JR., unlawfully, knowingly and wilfully did utter and publish as true, with intent to defraud the United States, a false and forged writing, namely, the endorsement of the payee on a check, knowing the same to be false and forged, the check being a genuine obligation of the United States, and of the following tenor: United States Treasury check #92,061,315, dated April 11, 1975, payable to Francis Berger, 66 Post Avenue, New York, N.Y., in the amount of \$215.53.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 495).

SECOND COUNT

The Grand Jury further charges:

On or about April 14, 1975, in the Southern District of New York, the defendant, CHARLES BRADLEY, JR., unlawfully, knowingly and wilfully did keep in his possession the contents of a letter, which had been stolen from an authorized depository for mail matter and mail route, knowing the same to have been stolen, such letter being addressed as follows:

Francis Berger
66 Post Ave.
New York, N.Y.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 1708).

FOREMAN

PAUL J. CURRAN
United States Attorney

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL

2 THE CLERK: For sentence, United States of America
3 versus Charles Bradley, Jr.

4 Is the government ready?

5 MS. CUSHMAN: The government is ready.

6 THE CLERK: Is the defendant ready?

7 MR. SIEGEL: Yes, the defendant is ready.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 I suppose that I ought to announce, so we won't
10 have to deal with that problem, that the motion for a new
11 trial is denied.

12 MR. SIEGEL: Your Honor, if it may please the court,
13 I move to have the verdict set aside as being contrary to the
14 weight of evidence.

15 THE COURT: That motion is denied.

16 MR. SIEGEL: Your Honor, in addition, I have been
17 advised by Mr. Bradley this morning that he has located two
18 witnesses who will come to court and testify as to a conver-
19 sation which one of the agents had with Mr. Bradley by tele-
20 phone --

21 THE COURT: The motion is denied. The issue which
22 we have raised in the first instance is to go behind the
23 verdict of the jury, and the other matters don't have any
24 substance.

25 So let's proceed with the sentencing, and after

2
CHARGE OF THE COURT3
Carter, J.

4
THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, we now come to
5
that part of the case where the evidence is in, the lawyers
6
have presented their arguments, and you are about to
7
exercise your final role, which is to pass upon and to decide
8
the fact issues that are in the case. You are the sole
9
and exclusive judges of the facts. You pass upon the
10
weight of the evidence, you determine the credibility of
11
the witnesses and you resolve such conflicts as there may
12
be in the evidence, and you draw such reasonable inferences
13
as may be warranted by the testimony in the case or the
14
exhibits therein.

15
My function at this point is to instruct you as
16
to the law that is applicable to the case. It is your
17
duty to accept the law as I state it to you and to apply
18
it to the facts as you find them. The logical result of
19
that application is your verdict in this case.

20
In respect to any fact matter, it is your
21
recollection and yours alone that governs. Anything that
22
counsel, either for the Government or the defense, may have
23
said with respect to matters in evidence during the trial,
24
in questions, in colloquy with the Court, in argument or
25
in summation, is not to be substituted for your own

2 recollection of the evidence.

3 So, too, anything the Court may have said during
4 the trial or may refer to in the course of these instructions
5 as to any factual matter in evidence is not to obtain in
6 lieu of your own recollection. The case must be decided
7 by you upon the sworn testimony of the witnesses and such
8 exhibits as were received in evidence and any stipulation
9 entered into among counsel.

10 At times throughout this trial I have been called
11 upon to make rulings upon various matters of law in respect
12 to a question or the offer of a document. I have sustained
13 some objections and I have overruled others. It is
14 essential in the performance of your duty that anything that
15 was ordered stricken from the record or rejected, you put
16 it out of your minds and disregard it entirely.

17 Now, please do not concern yourselves at all with
18 my reasons for any of these rulings. They are purely legal
19 matters and of no concern to you. In deciding this case,
20 you will be called upon to consider both direct evidence
21 and circumstantial evidence. I would like to explain the
22 difference between these two types of evidence.

23 Direct evidence is where a participant or a
24 witness testified to what he saw, heard or observed, what
25 he knows of his own knowledge, something which comes to him

2 by virtue of his senses. A document can also contain direct
3 evidence.

4 Circumstantial evidence is evidence of facts and
5 circumstances from which one may infer connected facts
6 which reasonably flow in the common experience of mankind.
7 Stated somewhat differently, circumstantial evidence is
8 evidence of facts from which other facts that are material
9 in a lawsuit may be found by the process of inference.

10 Now, let me give you an example that I believe
11 has nothing to do with the facts in this case. Let's
12 suppose that you had a material issue in some case as to
13 whether John Doe was drinking alcoholic beverages on a
14 particular night. A witness might take the stand and
15 testify that he had given whiskey to John Doe and had seen
16 him drinking it. That would be what is termed direct
17 evidence. If you believed that witness and thought he was
18 able to report accurately, you could find from that direct
19 evidence that John Doe had been drinking on the night in
20 question.

21 On the other hand, you might have a witness
22 testify that he had seen John Doe enter a tavern and
23 then had seen him leave the tavern a few hours later,
24 walking and talking in ways that suggested he was drunk.
25 If you believe that witness and thought he was an accurate

2 reporter, you could find on the basis of that testimony
3 that John Doe had been drinking on the night in question.
4 You would be using circumstantial evidence to find the
5 existence of a material fact in that hypothetical case.

6 Let me tell you, for your purposes there is no
7 general rule of law and no general rule of good sense that
8 places either of these two types of evidence, direct or
9 circumstantial, in a general way on a higher or lower or
10 different footing from the other. With respect to any
11 evidence admitted into a trial record, whether it is
12 direct or circumstantial, it is entitled to such weight,
13 and you are permitted to draw such reasonable inferences
14 as your good judgment dictates in a particular case. The
15 weight and effect of any item or category of evidence
16 depends not on whether it is to be categorized as direct or
17 circumstantial, but on the concrete significance of that
18 particular piece of evidence in its trial setting and upon
19 its intrinsic credibility or persuasive power in light
20 of the observations of the witness, your own general
21 experience of things, and your reasonable analysis of the
22 whole record.

23 There are times when different inferences may be
24 drawn from facts whether they are proved by circumstantial
25 or direct evidence. The Government asked you to draw one

2 set of inferences while the defendant asks you draw another.
3 It is for you to decide, and you alone, what inferences
4 you will draw.

5 Now, it is your function to determine the truth
6 or falsity of the testimony of each witness. No inference
7 as to the credibility of any witness should be drawn from
8 the fact that upon occasion I have asked questions of the
9 witness. My questions were only intended for clarification
10 or to expedite matters. They were not intended to suggest
11 my opinion as to the credibility of a witness who appeared
12 before you.

13 Now, how do you determine the truth and how do you
14 appraise the credibility of a witness? When you were sworn
15 in I said, and I will repeat, that you use your plain,
16 everyday common sense. The degree of credit to be given
17 a witness should be determined by his or her demeanor here,
18 his or her relationship to the controversy and to the parties,
19 his or her bias or impartiality, the reasonableness of his
20 or her statements, the strength or weakness of his recol-
21 lection viewed in the light of all the other testimony
22 and the attendant circumstances in the case.

23 Now, you observed the witnesses, you heard their
24 testimony. You must ask yourselves to answer the question,
25 how did they strike you? Did their answers seem frank, open,

2 to any material fact, you may disregard all of his testimony
3 or accept such part of it as you believe worthy of belief
4 as it appeals to your reason and to your judgment.

5 The fact that the Government is a party here,
6 that the prosecution is brought in the name of the United
7 States of America, entitles it to no greater consideration
8 than that accorded to any other party in a litigation.

9 By the same token, it is entitled to no less consideration.

10 The case should be considered and decided by you
11 as actions between persons of equal standing in the
12 community, and all persons stand equal before the law and
13 are to be dealt with as equals in a court of justice.

14 Now, as I advised you at the start of this trial,
15 the indictment is merely an accusation, it is merely a
16 charge. It is not evidence or proof of a defendant's
17 guilt and no inference of any kind may be drawn from the
18 indictment.

19 The Government has the burden of proving the
20 charges against the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt.
21 It is a burden that never shifts and remains upon the
22 Government throughout the entire trial. The defendant does
23 not have to prove his innocence. On the contrary, he is
24 presumed to be innocent of the accusation contained in the
25 indictment, and that presumption of innocence was in his

2 truthful and candid? Or were they equivocal, deliberately
3 confusing or evasive, or were they somewhere in between?
4 How did each witness impress you? And so you take each
5 one and on the basis of your common sense and your everyday
6 experience you determine whether or not you believe the
7 witness and to what extent you believe the witness.

8 In passing upon the credibility of a witness, you
9 may also take into account whether there were material
10 inconsistencies or contradictions within his or her own
11 testimony, whether a witness changed his or her testimony,
12 and to the extent to which he or she has been corroborated
13 or contradicted by other credible evidence.

14 You are at liberty, if you deem it appropriate,
15 to disbelieve testimony in whole or in part, even though
16 it is not otherwise contradicted or impeached. An interested
17 witness is not necessarily unworthy of belief, but the
18 interest of a witness in the outcome of this lawsuit is a
19 factor, however, which you may consider in determining the
20 weight and credibility to be given to that witness'
21 testimony. Also, you should be reminded that the testimony
22 of agents of the Government are to be evaluated and weighed
23 and given no greater or less weight than the testimony of
24 any other witness who is not an agent of the Government.
25 If you find that any witness wilfully testified falsely

2 favor at the start of the trial, continued in his favor
3 throughout the trial, is in his favor even as I instruct
4 you now, and remains in his favor during the course of your
5 deliberations in the jury room, and it is removed only
6 if and when you are satisfied that the Government has sus-
7 tained this burden of proving the guilt of the defendant
8 beyond a reasonable doubt.

9 Now, what is a reasonable doubt? It is a doubt
10 based on reason which arises from the evidence or lack of
11 evidence in the case. It is a doubt that a reasonable
12 man or woman might entertain. It is not a fanciful or
13 speculative doubt. It is not an imagined doubt. It is
14 not a doubt that a juror might conjure up in order to avoid
15 performing an unpleasant task or duty. It is not proof to
16 an absolutely certainty.

17 let me repeat: It is a reasonable doubt. It is
18 a doubt that appeals to your reason, to your judgment, your
19 common understanding, and your common sense; a doubt that
20 would cause you to hesitate to act in a matter of importance
21 in your daily lives.

22 On the other hand, the Government does not have
23 to prove the guilt of a defendant beyond all possible
24 doubt or to a positive certainty. If that were the rule,
few people, however guilty they might be, would be convicted.

2 If, when you consider the evidence in this case, you have
3 a reasonable doubt that the Government has proved any element
4 of the crime charged, then you must return a verdict of
5 acquittal. You may not return a guilty verdict simply
6 because you feel that it is more likely than not that the
7 defendant committed the crime charged. A guilty verdict
8 is only appropriate if each and every one of you are
9 satisfied that the defendant's guilt has been proved beyond
10 a reasonable doubt.

11 In this case, the indictment charges two
12 different crimes against the defendant. It is your obligation
13 to consider separately each of the individual charges or
14 counts of the indictment, and to decide whether as to each
15 count the Government has or has not sustained its burden
16 of proving beyond a reasonable doubt the guilt of the
17 defendant to the charge in the particular count.

18 As I told you at the start of the trial, the
19 defendant in this case is Charles Bradley, Jr., and I will
20 now read you Count 1 of the indictment:

21 "The grand jury charges on or about April 14,
22 1975, in the Southern District of New York, the defendant
23 Charles Bradley, Jr., unlawfully, knowingly and wilfully
24 did utter and publish as true with intent to defraud the
25 United States, a false and forged writing, namely, the

2 endorsement of the payee on a check, knowing the same to
3 be false and forged, the check being a genuine obligation
4 of the United States and of the following tenor: United
5 States Treasury Check No. 92061315, dated April 11, 1975,
6 payable to Frances Berger, 66 Post Avenue, New York, New
7 York, in the amount of \$215,13."

8 Count 1 charges the defendant with violating the
9 federal law, Title 18 United States Code, Section 495.
10 Title 18, Section 495 provides: "Whoever falsely makes,
11 alters, forges or counterfeits any writing for the purpose
12 of obtaining or receiving from the United States or any
13 officer or agent thereof any sum of money commits a crime."

14 The defendant is charged in Count 1 of the indict-
15 ment with violating the second paragraph of the statute
16 which provides in pertinent part that: "Whoever utters or
17 publishes as true any such false, forged, altered or
18 counterfeited writing with intent to defraud the United States,
19 knowing the same to be false, altered, forged or counter-
20 feited, commits a crime."

21 The term "writing" in the section of the law
22 I have read to you includes a check drawn on the Treasury
23 of the United States. A check is forged if it is a genuine
24 check but someone other than the payee signs the payee's
25 endorsement on the back of the check, if that act is done

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2 wilfully and without authority from the payee and with
3 intent to defraud. The payee is the person to whom the check
4 is made out.

5 The phrase "utters or publishes as true," as used
6 in the statute I read to you, means to attempt to use the
7 check. For example, to try to cash it or place it in
8 circulation if some assertion, representation or claim of
9 validity of the check is made to another person in some way,
10 either in words or acts, expressly or impliedly, that
11 the check is genuine.

12 In order to convict the defendant of the crime
13 of uttering charged in Count 1 of the indictment, you must
14 find each of the following to be true beyond a reasonable
15 doubt:

16 First, if the United States Treasury check made
17 payable to Frances Berger was a genuine obligation of the
18 United States;

19 Second, that the endorsement of Frances Berger
20 on the back of the check is a forgery;

21 Third, that Charles Bradley offered the check to
22 check cashier Al Padilla, knowing the endorsement was a
23 forgery; and

24 Fourth, that Charles Bradley acted wilfully and
25 with intent to defraud the United States.

2 The first element of the crime charged in Count 1
3 of the indictment is that the Treasurer's check made
4 payable to Frances Berger was a genuine obligation of
5 the United States. I think it is fair to state that no
6 serious issue of fact has been raised in this regard.
7 It has been stipulated that Government's Exhibit 1 was a
8 genuine obligation of the United States. Despite the lack
9 of opposition, however, this is an element of the crime
10 charged in Count 1 of the indictment and you must find it
11 to have been proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

12 The second element of Count 1 is that the
13 endorsement of Frances Berger on the back of the check was
14 a forgery. In order to find that the endorsement was a
15 forgery, as I said before, you must find beyond a reasonable
16 doubt that the signature was placed on the check by someone
17 other than the payee without the permission or authorization
18 of the payee and that it was done wilfully and with intent
19 to defraud. Furthermore, a person signing a check in the
20 name of another commits forgery unless he is authorized
21 by the other person to do so or has a bona fide belief
22 that he has such authorization.

23 The third element of the charge in Count 1
24 concerns whether Charles Bradley offered the check to check
25 casher Al Padilla knowing that the endorsement was a forgery.

2 To convict the defendant you must find that he uttered and
3 published the check and that he knew the endorsement on
4 the check was forged. To utter or publish a forged check
5 is to declare or assert that it is good, directly or
6 indirectly, by words or actions. That is, simply to cash
7 a check.

8 In order to convict the defendant of the crime
9 charged in Count 2 of the indictment, you must also find
10 that he knew that the check was forged.

11 An act is done knowingly if it is done voluntarily
12 and purposefully and not because of mistake, inadvertence
13 or other innocent reason. The defendant knowingly uttered
14 a forged check if he knew that it was forged at the time
15 when he uttered it, and that is that he cashed it.

16 The final element of the charge contained in
17 Count 1 is that the defendant acted wilfully and with intent
18 to defraud the United States. An act is done wilfully
19 if it is done knowingly, deliberately and with an evil
20 purpose. An act is not done wilfully if it is done as a
21 result of a mistake, carelessness, lack of evil purpose,
22 or for some other innocent reason. It is not necessary for
23 you to find that the defendant knew he was breaking a
24 particular law. And whether or not an act is knowing or
25 wilful has nothing to do with the defendant's personal or

2 private reasons for committing the act, so long as the act
3 was done with an evil purpose.

4 I note that you do not need to find that the
5 United States or anyone else was actually defrauded or
6 suffered pecuniary loss. You must find beyond a reasonable
7 doubt that the defendant acted wilfully and that he intended
8 to defraud the United states, either by inflicting on it
9 pecuniary loss or by obstructing a Government purpose.

10 Now, to act with intent to defraud means to act
11 with a specific intent to deceive or cheat normally for
12 the purpose of either causing some financial loss to another
13 person or bringing about some financial gain to one's self.
14 Knowledge and intent exist in the mind. Since it is not
15 possible to look into a man's mind to see what went on,
16 the only way you have of arriving at a decision on these
17 questions is for you to take into consideration all the
18 facts and circumstances, including the exhibits, and
19 determine whether the requisite knowledge and intent were
20 present at the time in question. Knowledge and intent
21 may be inferred from all the surrounding circumstances.

22 I remind you that if the defendant had authority
23 from the payee to cash the check, he cannot be guilty of
24 the offense charged in Count 1, uttering and publishing a
25 forged check.

2 I will now read you Count 2. It reads as follows:

3 "On or about April 14, 1975, in the Southern
4 District of New York, the defendant Charles Bradley, Jr.,
5 unlawfully, knowingly and wilfully did keep in his possession
6 the contents of a letter which had been stolen from an
7 authorized depository for mail matter and mail route,
8 knowing the same to have been stolen, such letter being
9 addressed as follows: Frances Berger, 66 Post Avenue,
10 New York, New York."

11 Count 1 of the indictment charges the defendant
12 Charles Bradley with violating a different federal law,
13 that is, Title 18, United States Code, Section 1078, that
14 provides in part:

15 "Whoever steals, takes, abstracts or by fraud
16 or deception obtains or attempts so to obtain, from or out
17 of any mail, post office or station thereof, letter box,
18 mail receptacle, or any mail route or other authorized
19 depository for mail matter, or from a letter from a mail
20 carrier, any letter, postal card, package, bag, or mail,
21 or abstracts or removes from any such letter, package, bag
22 or mail, any article or thing contained therein, commits
23 a crime."

24 The defendant is charged with having violated a
25 different paragraph of Section 1708, which provides in

2 pertinent part as follows:

3 "Whoever receives or unlawfully has in his
4 possession any letter, postal card, package, bag or mail,
5 or any article or thing contained therein, which has been
6 stolen, taken, embezzled or abstracted, as herein described,
7 knowing the same to have been stolen, taken, embezzled
8 or abstracted, commits a crime."

9 In order to convict the defendant on the charge
10 of possession of stolen mail, you must find each of the
11 following to be true beyond a reasonable doubt:

12 First, that the check referred to in Counts 1
13 and 2 of the indictment was deposited in and sent through
14 the mails;

15 Second, that the check was stolen, taken, embezzled
16 or abstracted from the mails;

17 Third, that the defendant later had the check
18 unlawfully in his possession; and

19 Fourth, that at the time of his possession the
20 defendant knew the check was stolen.

21 It is not necessary that the defendant knew that
22 the check was stolen from the mails. It is necessary only
23 that the defendant knew the letter or its content was
24 stolen.

25 The first element of the crime charged in Count 2

2 of the indictment is that the check referred to in the
3 indictment was deposited in and sent through the mails.
4 No issue of fact has been rasied in this regard. It was
5 stipulated that the Government's exhibit was the contents
6 of an envelope which was deposited in and sent through the
7 mails. However, this is an element of the crime charged
8 in Count 2 of the indictment and you must find it to have
9 been proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

10 In order to convict the defendant on Count 2, the
11 second element you must find is that the Treasurer's
12 check was stolen from the mails. On the facts of this
13 case you may find that someone, not necessarily the
14 defendant on trial, unlawfully removed the letter and its
15 contents from an authorized depository for mail on or
16 about the date set forth in the indictment, with the intent
17 to steal the letter from its rightful owner's possession.
18 From this fact you may find that the letter and its contents
19 were stolen. A letter properly mailed and never received
20 but found in the wrong hands can be found to have been
21 stolen from the mails in the absence of any other explan-
22 ation being proffered. You need not grasp for improbable
23 explanations, for instance, that the mail was lost or
24 misdelivered. Unlawfully means contrary to law. Thus an
25 act is done unlawfully if the act is legally prohibited.

2 The third fact you must find beyond a reasonable
3 doubt in order to convict on Count 2 is that the defendant
4 unlawfully received or possessed the contents of the
5 stolen mail. You may make such a finding if you conclude
6 that the defendant had in his custody stolen mail, that is,
7 the Treasury check. If you find that the defendant had
8 the check in his possession, before you can find the
9 defendant guilty of Count 2, you must find beyond a reason-
10 able doubt that at the time the defendant had the check
11 in his possession, he knew the check was stolen.

12 I remind you that for a person to commit an act
13 knowingly, he must do it voluntarily and purposefully,
14 not because of mistake, inadvertence or other innocent
15 reason.

16 Possession of recently stolen property, if not
17 satisfactory explained, is ordinarily a circumstance from
18 which you may reasonably draw the inference and find in
19 the light of the surrounding circumstances shown by the
20 evidence in the case that the person in possession knew
21 that the property had been stolen. However, you are not
22 required to make this inference.

23 The term "recently" is a relative term. It has
24 no fixed meaning. Whether property may be considered as
25 recently stolen depends on the nature of the property and

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2 all the facts and circumstances shown by the evidence in
3 the case. The longer the period of time since the theft,
4 the more doubtful becomes the inference which may reasonably
5 be drawn from unexplained possession.

6 Now, if you find that when questioned by Government
7 agents the defendant gave false statements in an attempt
8 to exonerate himself, you may consider such false
9 statement as circumstantial evidence from which consciousness
10 of guilt may be inferred. Whether or not the evidence of
11 the defendant's statement points to a consciousness of
12 guilt and the significance, if any, to be attached to any
13 such evidence, are matters for your consideration.

14 The defendant did not take the stand to testify.
15 As I told you before, the Government has the burden of
16 proving the charges against the defendant beyond a reason-
17 able doubt. The defendant does not have to prove his
18 innocence. The defendant has the right to remain silent.
19 He does not have to testify or present any evidence in his
20 behalf and you may not draw any inference or conclusion
21 or form any prejudice because the defendant did not testify
22 or present evidence.

23 Now, under your oath as jurors, you cannot allow
24 any consideration of the punishment which may be inflicted
25 upon the defendant, if he is convicted, to influence your

2 verdict in any way or in any sense enter into your delib-
3 erations. The duty of imposing sentence rests exclusively
4 upon the Court. Your function is to weigh the evidence
5 in the case and to determine the guilt or innocence of
6 the defendant solely upon the basis of such evidence and
7 the law as I have stated it to you. You are to decide the
8 case upon the evidence and the evidence alone, and you must
9 not be influenced by any assumption, conjecture or
10 sympathy, or any inference not warranted by the facts.

11 If you fail to find beyond a reasonable doubt
12 that the law has been violated, you should not hesitate for
13 any reason to find a verdict of acquittal. On the other
14 hand, if you should find that the law has been violated
15 as charged, you should not hesitate, because of sympathy
16 or any other reason, to render a verdict of guilty.

17 I would like to point out to you that you should
18 not enter the jury room with any preconceived pride of
19 opinion. You should not be unwilling to be convinced by
20 intelligent argument with your fellow jurors. Each juror
21 has to answer to his or her own conscience. Each has to
22 decide this case for himself or herself. But in so doing
23 you should be willing to consider the views of the other
24 jurors and to talk things out and try your best to reach
25 a unanimous verdict. Your verdict must be one with which

2 each juror agrees.

3 If, during your deliberations, you deem it neces-
4 sary to have a copy of the indictment or desire any of the
5 exhibits, they will be sent to you on request. If you
6 wish any portion of the testimony read or the Court's charge
7 reread, that will be done.

8 In conclusion, let me say that every criminal
9 case is important. It is important to the Government and
10 it is obviously important to the defendant. It is your
11 obligation to decide this case on the evidence and on the
12 law as I have charged it to you. And I give the case to
13 you with the assurance that you will do just that.

14 Ladies and gentlemen, I now retire with counsel
15 to the robing room and go over with them the charge as I
16 have given it to you, to hear their objections and to hear
17 from them whether I have by inadvertence misstated or left
18 something out.

19 When we come back the case will be given to you.

20 (In the robing room)

21 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Siegel, I will take
22 your exceptions.

23 MR. SIEGEL: Your Honor, first I will take the
24 blanket exception to the charge.

25 In addition, specifically, your Honor, in your

2 instruction to the jury on the inferences, it is my recol-
3 lection of your charge that you did not specifically state
4 that if there are two inferences to be drawn --

5 THE COURT: That is not the law in this circuit.
6 The law in this circuit is that it is for the jury to make
7 the determination. The law in the Fifth Circuit or some
8 other circuit may be if there is an inference to be drawn,
9 one innocent and one the other, they have to choose the
10 innocent.

11 MR. SIEGEL: I believe it's discretionary.

12 THE COURT: That is now the law in this circuit.

13 MR. SIEGEL: I would ask again the Court to
14 instruct the jury as to the defendant's state of mind.
15 In my requests to charge, I asked that the defendant's
16 state of mind, if in fact he felt that he was acting with
17 the permission and authority of the rightful owner.

18 THE COURT: I think that was covered. As a matter
19 of fact, that was covered in the charge.

20 What is next?

21 MR. SIEGEL: That is all I have at this point,
22 your Honor.

23 MS. CUSHMAN: No exceptions, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Let's go.

25 (In open court)

Judge Carter
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
N.Y., N.Y. 10007

353 Central Park West
New York, N.Y. 10025
November 21, 1975

Dear Judge Carter:

I was one of the jurors on the Charles Bradley case which was tried on November 14 and 15, 1975. I expressed concern to you and Mr. Fagin on Nov. 17, 1975 about the alacrity with which the jury arrived at a verdict of guilty and wondered whether the jury could have properly weighed all of the evidence in so short a time (about twenty minutes).

The following also lead me to believe the matter should be reconsidered:

1) I did not understand the meaning of the word "utter" used in the indictment, and I do not believe the rest of the jury did either as looked then what it meant.

2) I am personally involved in trying to get money back for a traveller's check which was lost or stolen. I am also involved in a situation where my signature was put on a document ^(not by me) and the document sent to an institution with money to be sent upon the receipt of the document. These did not occur to me at the time of the trial.

- 3) One of the alternate jurors said, "We might as well say they're all guilty and get it over with."
- 4) ^{before the trial had concluded.} One of the jurors seemed to me to express an opinion that ^{this person} believed the accused was guilty before the trial was over with.
- 5) Frances Berger was misspelled Francis Berger in the indictment.
- 6) I did not understand whether or not the jury should have ignored remarks made about "Tony" or at what point or points, if any, those remarks should have been disregarded.
- 7) Further testimony about Tony might have indicated mitigating circumstances.
- 8) The photographs and testimony about them were extremely confusing.
- 9) The check-casher could not identify Bradley as the one who had presented the check.
- 10) One investigator did not follow all the way through.
- 11) The investigator who took the statement was not in court as a witness.
- 12) The written statement began with an attempt to describe "Tony." This was apparently written by Bradley. ^{After this writing} It terminated abruptly and was followed by another person's writing (presumably Bohlen's) and related what transpired rather than a description of Tony.

- 13) The jury could not fairly have been asked to compare the signatures on I.D.s and check with the hand-writing samples.
- 14) Apparently the presumption of innocence faded awfully fast as 10 out of 12 jurors voted guilty on both counts and the two others guilty on one count almost immediately after leaving the court-room.
- 15) One of the jurors made a remark which indicated ^{the person} felt the case was of little consequence.

Your very truly,
Ralph M. Elliott

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